

Phillips faced a dangerous, rabid animal with unselfish resolve.

That day, Ms. Phillips walked into her own yard to an unusual discovery. A bobcat stood by her car for a moment before lunging at this grandmother.

Knowing that her five-year-old granddaughter was safe just inside her home, Ms. Phillips decided not to call for help. Instead, she wrestled with the bobcat until she pinned it down and suffocated it with her hands.

Only after the animal's death did Ms. Phillips learn that it was rabid and that she would have to undergo a series of rabies shots and medical care to address her broken fingers and other wounds left by the cat's claws and teeth.

Mr. Speaker, I grieve with the Phillips family for this attack, and at the same time I want to celebrate the strength and selflessness that Ms. Phillips displayed by protecting her family from any possible harm.

Northeast Georgia is full of courageous, capable people, and Ms. DeDe Phillips exemplifies their spirit. As she recovers, men and women in our region and around this country are recognizing her for the hero that she is.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Home Rule Act. This bill would give the Council of the District of Columbia authority over the jurisdiction and organization of the local D.C. courts. The 1973 Home Rule Act (HRA) expressly prohibits D.C. from enacting any law with respect to any provision of the D.C. Code title that relates to these matters.

Forty-five years after the passage of the HRA, matters involving the D.C. courts almost never come to Congress, so Congress knows almost nothing about the District's courts. Notwithstanding the importance of D.C.'s courts to District residents, the D.C. Council, which is the repository of knowledge and experience for the District's criminal and civil justice systems and the accountable body to our residents, is irresponsibly left on the sidelines while Congress remains the sole entity to correct flaws in the District's courts.

Under the HRA, the D.C. Council has no authority to "enact any act, resolution, or rule with respect to any provision of title 11 of the District of Columbia Code (relating to organization and jurisdiction of the District of Columbia courts)." Matters in title 11 include rules of criminal and civil procedure, court administration, the number of authorized judges, the branches of the courts, the rules of jury service and admission to the bar. The bill would strike this limitation on the D.C. Council's authority.

The District has never had authority over its local courts, even when it was responsible for paying for their operations. Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the federal government assumed the costs for several state-level functions, including the courts. This bill would

not affect the authority of the President to nominate, or the Senate to confirm, local judges.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL SHAUN EASLEY

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Department of Defense and Intelligence Overhead Architecture Subcommittee, I rise today to congratulate United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel (Lt. Col.) Shaun Easley for his exceptionally meritorious service while serving as a Congressional Liaison Officer at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) from December 2015 to June 2018.

While at NGA, Lt. Col. Easley exhibited superior leadership and became a well of institutional knowledge for the organization. Thanks to his exemplary work, the relationship between Congress and NGA is stronger than ever. He is a force-multiplier, widely known for the quality of his work by officials across the government.

Lt. Col. Easley has a knack for making the seemingly inaccessible, within reach. When I have worked with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, I find them to be professional and informed on parliamentary procedure, which enhances productivity between the legislative and executive branches of government. The high level of detail in the discourse between the NGA and me reflects back on Lt. Col. Easley's extensive experience and expertise, which he clearly provides to key agency stakeholders informing them on the intricacies of the legislative process.

I watched closely when the NGA Director, Robert Cardillo, testified during the agency's first open hearing in front of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in 2016. The Director's comprehensive Statement for the Record helped enrich transparency, and drive understanding of NGA's unique capabilities and mission with members of Congress and the American public. It came as no surprise to me that Shaun supported that mission, continuing the high standards set by the NGA personnel. Shaun's impact will long be appreciated by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and by my fellow members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Lieutenant Colonel Easley for his dedication and service on behalf of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 2018 FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 40th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will present ninety-one awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories, including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medal of Valor.

Sixty-nine awards will be bestowed upon first responders who serve with the Fairfax County Police Department in recognition of their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD following Valor Award Recipients:

Silver Medal of Valor: 2nd Lt. Michael D. Gubesch, MPO Douglas E. Middlebrooks, PFC Ali Sepehri, Ofc. Isa L. Martin, Pilot Garret G. Wymer.

Bronze Medal of Valor: 2nd Lt. Scott F. Moskowit, 2nd Lt. Peter J. Massaro, MPO Brian E. Plaugher, PFC Robert A. Wardrop, PFC Jose R. Morillo, PFC Gary Moore, Jr., PFC Lindsey M. Memenza, PFC Eric L. Harte, PFC William W. Daugherty, Ofc. Andrew H. Snow.

Certificate of Valor: 2nd Lt. Edward S. Rediske, MPO John E. Alford, PFC Nicholas D. Taormina, PFC Timothy B. Schilling, PFC Michael D. Scatchard, PFC Ryan M. Saupp, PFC James F. Sadler, PFC Todd C. Owens, PFC Michael W. Greene, PFC Edward K. George, PFC Colby B. Cooman, PFC Stephen P. Cicinato, PFC Aaron M. Ciarrochi, PFC Morgan N. Blumer, PFC Kenneth D. Baxter, Det. Paul H. Cable, Ofc. Michael A. Stirling, Ofc. Frank J. Kopeski, Ofc. Joseph S. Hensley, Ofc. Alicia A. Adkins, Pilot Andrew J. Wiseman, APO Dennis M. Staten, Dispatcher Jill Velez, K9 Bolt.

Lifesaving Award: 2nd Lt. Daniel B. Spital, MPO Erik S. Stallings, MPO Bryan V. Smith, MPO Brian A. Ritter, PFC Cameron York, PFC Kurt T. Woodward, PFC David M. Winter, PFC Jon David F. Tiedemann, PFC Philip C. Stone, PFC Shannon L. Sams, PFC Gregory J. Salino, PFC Kevin L. Reynolds, PFC Steven L. Randazzo, PFC Gershon L. Ramirez, PFC Kory A. Pfeiffer, PFC Paul J. Notarianni, PFC Christopher W. Munson, PFC Katherine A. Montwill, PFC Kelly E. McElligott, PFC Young H. Lee, PFC Matthew R. Kourt, PFC Casey C. Johnson, PFC Nicole A. Hunt, PFC Timothy M. Henderson, PFC Kyle R. Bryant, PFC Kurt A. Bowers, PFC Morgan N. Blumer, Det. Brian C. Christian, Ofc. Devin T. White, Ofc. Matthew D. Erd.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2018 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County

Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

TRIBUTE TO MAXINE BRUNSMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Maxine Brunsmann on the occasion of her 103rd birthday.

Our world has changed a great deal during Maxine's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Maxine has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Ms. Brunsmann in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 103rd birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Maxine Brunsmann on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. BESSIE ALEXANDER RUSSELL

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Ms. Bessie Alexander Russell who passed at the age of 86 on December 7, 2017. Bessie was born in Chicago on March 4, 1931 and raised in Chicago's "Old Town" neighborhood. She was a graduate of William H. Wells Community Academy High School, commonly known as Well's High School and began a life in administration, civics and organizing. I had the pleasure of knowing Bessie during several of my campaigns for the County Board and Alderman, block club meetings, community organizing activities and political rallies.

Bessie had a long and distinguished career in administration and is a dedicated servant of the community. Bessie served as secretary for Chicago City Colleges for 30 years before becoming a Bursar at Crane College (currently known as Malcolm X College). During her tenure with the City College's system, she served as the first African American president of the Local 1708 labor union. In addition, Bessie was also Chicago's first Human Relations Commissioner on Race, Gender and Sexuality, where she was appointed by Mayor Harold Washington and retained by Mayor Richard Daley.

Bessie was the wife of the late Paul H. Russell and devoted mother of Paula M. Russell

and three late infant sons, all named Paul. Her sons all developed a similar fatal lung condition—Bessie donated their bodies to research. Because of this noteworthy and selfless act, this research was instrumental in a curable treatment in the uterus for this lung condition.

A man once said, "Death leaves a head-ache that no one can heal; Love leaves a memory that no one can steal." So, Mr. Speaker, I ask the Congress, the family and friends to continue to honor Ms. Bessie Russell's memory for love for the Chicagoland community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, my voting card didn't register. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 274.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to flight complications, I was unable to arrive in Washington in time to cast my vote on June 20, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 275; YEA on Roll Call No. 276; NAY on Roll Call No. 277; and YEA on Roll Call No. 278.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKLYN SAMMONS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brooklyn Sammons of Orient-Macksburg High School. Brooklyn was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Sixteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on April 29, 2018.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brooklyn Sammons in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Brooklyn on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW M. SHERMAN AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate my constituent and friend, Andrew (Andy) M. Sherman who is retiring from his position as Acting Deputy Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) following 38 years of dedicated federal service.

Andy began his career at the GPO in 1980 as a budget analyst. In 1985 he began working as a staff assistant reporting to the Office of the Director (formerly the Office of the Public Printer), gaining extensive experience with the agency's budget, appropriations, legislation, strategic planning, and congressional and public affairs operations. The skills learned in this position would serve him well during his career and advancement at the GPO.

He was named Director of Congressional and Public Affairs in 1997, a position he held for 14 years. In 2011, he was promoted to Chief Communications Officer and in 2013 was again promoted to Chief of Staff. Following the retirement of Deputy Director Jim Bradley in March 2018, Andy became Acting Deputy Director and the head of the agency.

During his 38-year career, Andy was directly involved in GPO's transformation from a print-centric to a digital-centric agency. His efforts were instrumental in reshaping GPO's operations and staff to reduce costs and expand digital operations.

For over 30 years he authored GPO's Annual Reports to Congress and for more than 2 decades, Andy was the GPO's principal liaison to the congressional Joint Committee on Printing, which oversees GPO. In this role, he ensured the approval of the GPO's annual spending plans and the wage agreements signed by GPO's management and GPO union employees. In addition, Andy served for 25 years as GPO's representative to the National Government Publishing Association, holding the offices of Eastern regional director, treasurer, and president.

With GPO Historian George Barnum, Andy contributed to the writing of an official history of the GPO, *Keeping America Informed*, published in 2011 and revised in 2016, as well as *Picturing the Big Shop*, a book of more than 200 of GPO's historical photographs, which was released in 2016. He also participated in the revision and issuance of three editions of GPO's popular *Style Manual*, for 2000, 2008, and 2016.

In recognition of his service and expertise, Andy has received two Distinguished Service Awards, 2 Meritorious Service Awards, and one Public Printer award.

Andy holds a B.A. and an M.A. in Government from The University of Virginia. Prior to joining the GPO he was a graduate teaching assistant in American history at Old Dominion University. Andy and his wife, Deborah, are the parents of three grown children, Benjamin, Sarah, and David, and for more than 30 years have resided in North Springfield, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Andrew M. Sherman for